



**St. George's**  
Episcopal  
Church

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# The Day of Pentecost

**May 31, 2020**

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You are welcome at  
St. George's Church:  
Regardless of race,  
nationality,  
sexual orientation,  
gender expression,  
or tradition.

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# The Day of Pentecost May 31, 2020

*From the Book of Common Prayer  
(BCP), as modified by the 2018  
General Convention Resolution on  
Expansive Language.*

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**Welcome to our online service! During the prelude, we invite you to prepare for worship by observing silence or taking time for private prayer. We are glad you are here!**

*Our service for Pentecost Sunday is special for this festival day. The Celtic Evensong service resumes next week.*

## **Opening Welcome**

### **Prelude**

#### **Call to Worship**

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit.

**People: There is one hope in God's call to us.**

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism:

**People: One God and Maker of all.**

#### *The Officiant continues*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### **Song of Praise: "Gloria"**

John H. Vreeland

**Gloria, gloria, glory in the highest. (2x)**

**To God be glory forever. (2x)**

**Gloria, gloria, glory in the highest. (2x)**

**Alleluia, Amen. (8x)**

Officiant: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

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Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Numbers 11:24 - 30**

*New Revised Standard Translation*

Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!" And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 104:25 - 35, 37**

**BCP 736**

*Read responsively, by whole verse*

25 O LORD, how manifold are your works! \*

in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

26 Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, \*  
creatures both small and great.

27 There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, \*  
which you have made for the sport of it.

28 All of them look to you \*  
to give them their food in due season.

29 You give it to them; they gather it; \*  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

30 You hide your face, and they are terrified; \*  
you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.

31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; \*  
and so you renew the face of the earth.

32 May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; \*  
may the LORD rejoice in all his works.

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33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; \*  
    he touches the mountains and they smoke.  
34 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; \*  
    I will praise my God while I have my being.  
35 May these words of mine please him; \*  
    I will rejoice in the LORD.  
37 Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah!

### **Acts 2:1 - 21**

#### *NRSV Translation*

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs-- in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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Hymn 516: "Come down, O Love divine"

*Down Ampney*

**1** Come down, O Love divine,  
seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

**2** O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
and let thy glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

**3** And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
for none can guess its grace,  
till Love create a place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

**The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John** John 20:19 - 23

**People: Glory to you, O Christ.**

*NRSV translation*

When it was evening of the Day of Resurrection, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Reader: The Gospel of our Savior.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Homily**

The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

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## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

BCP 292

Officiant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

**People: I do.**

Officiant: Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Officiant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Officiant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Officiant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Officiant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Officiant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Officiant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Officiant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

*The Officiant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

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*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. We invite you to share your gifts in support of our ministry within and beyond our congregation, especially during this time when we cannot receive those offerings in person. Make your offering online (<http://bit.ly/stggive>) or by mail to the church.*

### **Announcements**

*For the latest updates and messages of encouragement, check our website ([StGeorgesEpiscopal.net](http://StGeorgesEpiscopal.net)) and subscribe to our email newsletter (<http://bit.ly/stggenews>)*

### **The Prayers**

Officiant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People** *(By the St. George's Prayer Guild)*

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Leader: On this Day of Pentecost, we ask the Holy Spirit to come inspire and empower us as we pray for the needs of our community and the world.

Come Holy Spirit, inspire and empower us to pray for the church that we may proclaim repentance and forgiveness in your Name and be witnesses of your power. We pray for all churches as they discern how and when to re-gather safely.

**People: Come Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Inspire and empower us to pray for the nations, cities, and communities of the world and all in authority, that they may know your peace and the coming of your reign.

**People: Come Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Inspire and empower us to pray for the health and welfare of the world and for the proper stewardship of your Creation, that all beings may know your blessing. We pray for all who lack the basic necessities of life and those who are struggling to make ends meet.

**People: Come Holy Spirit.**

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Leader: Inspire and empower us to pray for the concerns of this community, especially for those who are sick and suffering or in any need of mind, body, or spirit. We pray for all those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, those who are ill and those working to care for them. We pray for all those who work so that others may stay home.

**People: Come Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Inspire and empower us to pray for all those in our parish who are preparing for baptism, confirmation, reception, and re-affirmation of their baptism vows. As they await these outward and visible signs, may they know the inward comfort of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Come Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Inspire and empower us to pray for ourselves as we hunger for the outward and visible sign of the Holy Eucharist. Help us to know your grace through the Holy Comforter until we can gather in person again around the altar.

**People: Come Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Inspire and empower us to pray for all those blessings and concerns we name now, silently or aloud (leader pauses for 10 seconds). We cry out to you...

**People: Come Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Inspire and empower us to pray for all who have died. May they rise to new life.

**People: Come Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Come Holy Spirit, inspire and empower us to pray and to bear witness to the mighty works of God who reigns with you and our Savior Jesus Christ, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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Hymn WLP 742: "Loving Spirit"

*Omni die*

**1 Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be;  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.**

**2 Like a mother you enfold me,  
hold my life within your own.  
Feed me with your very body,  
form me of your flesh and bone.**

**3 Like a father you protect me.  
Teach me the discerning eye.  
Hoist me up upon your shoulder,  
let me see the world from high.**

**4 Friend and lover in your closeness  
I am known and held and blest:  
in your promise is my comfort,  
in your presence I may rest.**

**5 Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be;  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.**

**The Blessing**

May Almighty God, who enlightened the minds of the disciples by pouring out upon them the Holy Spirit, make you rich with divine blessing, that you may abound more and more in that Spirit for ever. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

**The Peace**

Officiant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

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## **The Dismissal**

Officiant: Go into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Officiant: The service is ended. Thank you for participating.

## **Postlude**

*In this time of uncertainty and dynamic change, please know that although we cannot physically gather, God is ever-present. We are here too. If you would like someone to chat and pray with you, please submit a request online ([bit.ly/stgprayer](http://bit.ly/stgprayer)) and if it is an emergency (for e.g. sudden illness, death), please contact the pastoral emergency phone (540.361.8573) where you will reach a clergy person on call. Know that we are holding you in our prayers and look forward to a time when we will be able to gather again. God's peace be with you.*

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## **St. George's Episcopal Church**

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